

REMARKS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed March 12, 2003. Claims 1 - 34 were pending, and Claims 32 - 34 were allowed and Claims 1 - 4, 6, 8, 9, 11, 12, 21 and 24 - 26 were rejected. Claims 5, 7, 10, 13 - 20, 22, 23 and 27 - 31 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim.

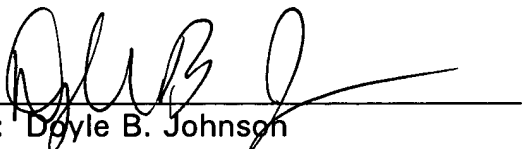
The Applicant has added the limitations of Claims 6 and 7 into Claim 1, as Claim 7 was noted as being allowable. Claims 6 and 7 are canceled. Claims 9 and 12 have been amended to depend on the amended Claim 1. Claim 21 has been amended to include the limitations of Claim 22, Claim 22 has been canceled, and Claim 23 has been amended to depend from Claim 21. Claim 34 has been amended to clarify that it depends from Claim 32.

In addition, the Applicant has added newly drafted Claims 36 - 39. Independent Claim 36 corresponds to previous Claims 1, 4 and 5 (Claim 5 noted as being allowable). Independent Claim 37 corresponds to previous Claims 12 and 13 (Claim 13 noted as being allowable). Independent Claim 38 corresponds to previous Claims 21, 27 and 28 (Claim 28 noted as being allowable). Finally, Claim 39 corresponds to previous Claims 21 and 30 (Claim 30 noted as being allowable). It is believed that the pending claims are now all in allowable form.

The Applicant wishes to point out that certified copies of the foreign priority documents were sent to the USPTO on Dec. 17, 2001 (see enclosed copy of the transmittal). Please acknowledge receipt of the priority documents on a PT0-326 or other official form.

Respectfully submitted,

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